

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to make editorial changes to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 1, 4, 7 and 10 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 4, 7 and 10 are rejected as unpatentable over applicants' disclosed prior art in view of CHOI et al. 6,429,918.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested because the references do not teach or suggest that color layers are provided for each of the pixel regions and the color layers are spaced apart from the gate lines and drain lines when seen in plan view and that a black matrix layer overlaps the gate lines and drain lines when seen in plan view such that the black matrix layer and the drain lines constitute direct capacitive coupling free from any electrode therebetween and the black matrix layer and the gate lines constitute direct capacitive coupling free from any electrode therebetween as recited in claim 1 of the present application.

As noted in the Official Action, the disclosed prior art does not expressly disclose that the color layer is spaced apart from the gate lines and the drain lines when seen in plan view, that is, the color layers do not overlap the gate lines and the drain lines. These shortcomings are attempted to be overcome by combining the disclosed prior art with CHOI et al. As noted

in the Official Action, CHOI et al. teach that the color filters do not overlap the gate lines and the data lines. As further noted in the Official Action, CHOI et al. indicate at column 5, lines 25-64 that such a structure reduces the light leakage. Moreover, column 5, lines 25-64 of CHOI et al. also include the teaching of shielding electrode 37. As seen in Figure 3 of CHOI et al. shielding electrode 37 is between black matrix 33 and drain line 13. Accordingly, any teaching of CHOI et al. would necessarily include the teaching of including a shielding electrode between the black matrix layer and the drain lines. Therefore, the combination of references would not teach or suggest a black matrix layer and drain layer constituting direct capacitive coupling free from any electrode therebetween as recited in claim 1 of the present application.

MPEP 2143.01 states that a proposed modification cannot change the principle of operation of a reference. By removing the shielding electrode 37 from CHOI et al., the parasitic electric field between the data bus line and the branches of the counter electrode or between the data bus line and the pixel electrode would not be decreased and therefore the leakage light would be increased such that the principle of operation of CHOI et al. would be changed. Accordingly, the teachings of the references are not sufficient to render the claims *prima facie* obvious.

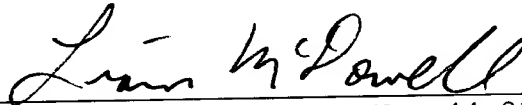
Claims 4, 7 and 10 depend from claim 1 and further define the invention and are also believed patentable over the cited prior art.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

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